Minutes of EUCAST Annual General Sub-Committee Meeting, ECCMID 2017

Sunday 23rd April 16:30 – 18:30
Business Suite 1
Vienna

1. **Present:** Maiken Arendrup (Denmark, SC), Francesco Barchiesi (Italy), Eric Dannaoui (France), Christian Giske (Sweden, EUCAST SC), Jesus Guinea (Spain, SC), Petr Hamal (Czech Republic), Helle Jarv (Estonia), Katrien Lagrou (Belgium, SC), Nikolai Klimko (Russia), Cornelia Lass-Flörl (Austria), Olivier Lortholary (France), Tadeja Matos (Slovenia), Joseph Meletiadis (Greece, SC), Johan Mouton (The Netherlands, SC), Konrad Muehlethaler (Switzerland), Tom Rogers (Ireland), John Turnidge (Australia, EUCAST SC).

   **Apologies were received from** Sevtap Arikan-Akdagli (Turkey) and Erja Chryssanthou (Sweden).

2. **Minutes of EUCAST AFST General Sub-Committee Meeting, Amsterdam 2016:** The minutes were accepted as true and correct.

3. **EUCAST AFST General Sub-Committee members 2016/2017:** The current EUCAST AFST General Committee (or subcommittee) membership is as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cornelia Lass-Flörl</td>
<td>Austria</td>
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<td>Katrien Lagrou (NAC)</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
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<td>Bulgaria</td>
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<td>Petr Hamal (NAC)</td>
<td>Cyprus</td>
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<td>Maiken Cavling Arendrup (Chair, SC)</td>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
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<td>Helle Järv</td>
<td>Estonia</td>
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<td>Pirkko Koukila-Kähkölä</td>
<td>Finland</td>
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<td>Olivier Lortholary</td>
<td>France</td>
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<td>Oliver Kurzai</td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<td>Aristeia Velegraki</td>
<td>Greece</td>
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<td>Joseph Meletiadis (Data Manager, SC)</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
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<td>Iceland</td>
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<td>Tom Rogers</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
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<td>Francesco Barchiesi</td>
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No changes in the AFST subcommittee have occurred during 2016/7.

4. Chairman’s report

A summary of the chairman’s report is found below. The presentation will be available shortly at www.EUCAST.org and was circulated in a draft version in advance of the full subcommittee meeting.

Meetings

The general committee meets annually at ECCMID (the last meeting took place during EC-CMID 2016). The steering committee met 3 times over the past year.

Organisational

- Highlighted the updated SOP 4.2, describing organisational details - Composition of the steering committee positions was outlined
- Katrien Lagrou steps down from the SC this term and a NAC vacant position is available for the 2017-2019 term. Franchesco Barchiesi has expressed his interest in the position. There were no other expressions of interest this year. Therefore, the AFST Steering committee has subsequently proposed Francesco Barchiesi as new NAC representative, and he has been appointed by the EUCAST steering committee.
- The 3-year period for the Chairman (Maiken C. Arendrup) and the Data Manager (Joseph Meletiadis) ends this year. Both have been reappointed by the EUCAST steering committee.
- Updated List of Laboratories Network presented and can be found at http://www.eu-cast.org/organization/network_laboratories/.

Methods and QC

- EUCAST Azole agar screening for Aspergillus azole resistance method presented by MCA. Christian Giske asked if there is any marketed brand of plates that would be practical
in Europe, this is indeed the case (VipCheck, the NL). Tom Rogers mentioned they usually use 6-well plates for resistance screening.

- Visual vs. spec reading of *A. fumigatus* EUCASTazole plates presented by Joseph Meletiadis. Spec end point not the official endpoint but due to the close agreement can serve as a check and "hard" data for later re-inspection.

- Alternative method for echinocandin – asp testing presented by Joseph Meletiadis
  - Reading the MIC with XTT. The marginal role of candins in the treatment of aspergillosis may question the pertinence of checking the activity of the candins against *Aspergillus* (Olivier Lortholary). However, it is used in azole resistant chronic aspergillosis and in the setting of intolerance/contraindications, hence testing for candin resistance would be appropriate in some clinical situations despite not being 1st line therapy for azole susceptible aspergillosis (Maiken C Arendrup).
  - Candid resistance detection using agar plates presented by Joseph Meletiadis and appears promising, but pend testing of more resistant isolates.

**Rationale Documents and Breakpoints**

- Posaconazole RD 2.0. Combines the previous *Aspergillus* and *Candida* versions into a single RD document. News are: introduction of a %-age MIC table and MIC distributions of more species included. Following the launch of the new oral tablet and iv formulations the BPs were revisited but remain unchanged (for details please consult the posaconazole RD [http://www.eucast.org/ast_of_fungi/rationale_documents_for_antifungals/](http://www.eucast.org/ast_of_fungi/rationale_documents_for_antifungals/)).

**Publications**

- The following manuscript have been published during the past term:
  - Spectrophotometric reading of EUCAST antifungal susceptibility testing of *A. fumigatus*
    Meletiadis J, Leth Mortensen K, Verweij PE, Mouton JW, Arendrup MC
  - EUCAST technical note on isavuconazole breakpoints for *Aspergillus*, itraconazole breakpoints for *Candida* and updates for the antifungal susceptibility testing method documents
    Arendrup MC, Meletiadis J, Mouton JW, Guinea J, Cuenca-Estrella M, Lagrou K, Howard SJ; Subcommittee on Antifungal Susceptibility Testing (AFST) of the ESCMID European Committee for Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST)
- Minor modifications of the Procedure Documents 7.3.1 and 9.3.1 in 2017 (error in the McFarland procedure)
Yeasts (7.3.1)
Molds (9.3.1)

- The new smart phone application ‘FungiMICs’ was highlighted. The app. is a supporting information resource aimed at physicians working in the field of fungal infections. It contains MIC distributions, ECOFFs and clinical breakpoints, etc for Candida and Aspergillus (so far) and a variety of drugs. The AFST steering committee would welcome feedback from the general committee on this tool. Christian Giske asked if it is possible to see how many times the MICs distributions have been downloaded, but it has not been assessed (Maiken Arendrup).

Website updates (www.eucast.org and http://mic.eucast.org/Eucast2/)
To avoid misclassification when 2 decimals are used instead of 3, the following MICs (in µg/mL) have been converted as follows:
- 0.06 in 0.064
- 0.03 in 0.032
- 0.13 in 0.125

Future activities
- Voriconazole RD 2.0 is currently undergoing revision and it will have a merged format similar to the Posaconazole 2.0. ECOFFs for additional Candida species, Cryptococcus gattii and C. neoformans and azoles and amphotericin B will be added. Amphotericin B document will be the following to be updated.
- Revision of the QC document as some isolates there listed are not available any more.
- In vitro PK/PD model to investigate the role of posaconazole and voriconazole as an appropriate target against C. glabrata. Preliminary analysis suggests that BP of posaconazole and voriconazole against Candida are basically the same (Joseph Meletiadis).
- Impact of plastic composition of the trays on the MICs of azoles, amphotericin B and echinocandins, MIC reproducibility and discriminatory power with respect to differentiation of wt and resistant isolates is being systematically evaluated. Differential MICs depending on type of plastic used is well described for some antibacterials including colistin, and some newer “sticky” antibiotics leading to the consideration of using Teflon® coated trays to avoid drug-binding (J. Turnidge). However, Teflon coating will interfere with the spectrophotometric plates reading (Maiken C Arendrup). Future publications should state the kind of plastic trays used (MC. Arendrup).

5. Any other business
None.
6. **Future meeting**

The next meeting of the AFST General Committee will be at the 28th ECCMID, 21st – 24th April 2018, Madrid, Spain. The Steering Committee will next meet in summer 2017, location/date to be confirmed.